

Los Lunas, New Mexico – Congressman Harry Teague congratulated the Louisiana Energy Services (LES) gas centrifuge uranium enrichment plant in Lea County, for successfully completing its Nuclear Regulatory Commission’s readiness review, which concluded that the facility can begin operation of the first cascade under its NRC license. Harry Teague issued this statement in response:

“After all the hard work from so many people that went in to this project, it’s incredibly gratifying to see this facility begin operation. In this day and age, I know it’s hard to believe that people can get together to do something good for the community and good for the country, but that’s exactly what this facility represents. As the chairman of the Lea County Commission, I made bringing LES to Lea County my top priority. Now I’m witnessing this moment in Lea County history as a U.S. Congressman, where I have different responsibilities but the same commitment to Lea County and the jobs we’ve created right here. No matter what I’m elected or not elected to, I will always be a citizen of Lea County, and I will always work to protect and increase the jobs we’ve created here.”

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“The URENCO facility is exactly the type of alternative energy initiative that we need to continue to invest in across the region. A comprehensive energy plan that invests wisely in both traditional and renewable energy resources is essential in cementing southern New Mexico as a leader in the energy industry. As we move into the future, a diverse alternative energy industry will help grow our economy and create millions of much needed, good jobs for our region. Alternative fuel sources like nuclear, biofuels, solar and wind will cut our dependence on foreign oil and strengthen our national security. It is critical that we work as a state, and a nation, to invest in the do-it-all, do-it-in-America energy approach.”

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